

C i t y o f D e e r P a r k **Messenger**

Fall 2015

Recycling in the City

The City of Deer Park offers single-stream recycling at the Transfer Station. Residents can recycle their paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, and metal cans by dropping them all into one single bin. There is no need to sort your recyclables.

When you recycle, be aware that food waste, plastic bags, and polystyrene foam cups & containers are not acceptable. Improper recycling can slow down the process or even ruin the entire load of recyclables. Avoid contaminating a load of recyclables by adhering to the following:

- Do not include food waste, plastic bags, or polystyrene foam (styrofoam) cups & containers with your recyclable materials.
- Empty and rinse all recyclable containers.
- Paper and cardboard to be recycled must be dry and free of food debris.
- Do not include tissues, paper towels, and napkins with your recyclables. These products have come into contact with organic matter, such as food and germs, which can contaminate other items to be recycled. Also, paper can only be recycled a limited number of times. Paper fiber gets shorter each time it's recycled, and by the time it's a paper towel or tissue, the fiber is pretty short.
- Keep medical waste (syringes, needles) out of recycling containers.
- If you decide to carry your

recyclables in a bag, empty your bag of recyclables into the bin. Do not toss the plastic bag or trash bag into the bin with your recyclables. Even though the type of plastic that's used to make plastic bags is recyclable, throwing them in with the rest of your recyclables causes problems. The plastic bags cause jams and damage sorting equipment. Please take the plastic grocery bags back to the grocery store or go to www.plasticfilmrecycling.org to find the nearest plastic film recycling location.

Remember, even small amounts of materials that do not belong can contaminate an entire load of recyclables.

For more information, call 281-478-7213. The Transfer Station is located at 610 Underwood Road and open Monday-Friday, 8am to 6pm, and Saturday, 9am to 6pm.

What's the Difference?

Ever wonder what the difference is between cardboard and paperboard? Cardboard is made up of 3 layers. It contains a wavy center between 2 flat pieces of paper. Alternatively, paperboard is a single layer pressed boxboard and is typically used for retail packaging. Some examples of paperboard packaging include cereal, tissue, and cake mix boxes.



In this issue:

General Information	2
Fire Dept.....	3
Art Park Players.....	3
Police Dept.	4-5
Public Works.....	5-7
Maxwell Center.....	8
Library News.....	9-11
Employee Awards.....	11
Parks & Recreation.....	11-13
2015-2016 Budget	14-15
Economic Development...	15-16
Council Actions	16-18
Garbage Bags.....	20

What is Recyclable?



Metal Cans – steel, tin & aluminum soda, vegetable, fruit & tuna cans



Plastic Bottles & Containers #1-5 & 7

Paper – Brown paper bags, non-confidential office paper, newspaper, magazines



Paper Cardboard, Dairy & Juice Containers



Flattened Cardboard & Paperboard

General Information

Elected Officials

Jerry Mouton, Jr.	Mayor
Sherry Garrison	Council Member - Position 1
Thane Harrison	Council Member - Position 2
Tommy Ginn	Council Member - Position 3
Bill Patterson	Council Member - Position 4
Ron Martin	Council Member - Position 5
Rae A. Sinor	Council Member - Position 6

Contact the Mayor and members of City Council by e-mail at cityhall@deerparktx.org.

Department Directors

James J. Stokes	City Manager
Gary M. Jackson	Assistant City Manager
Sandra Watkins	City Secretary
Donna Todd	Director, Finance
Bill Philibert	Director, Human Resources
Bill Pedersen	Director, Public Works
Scott E. Swigert	Director, Parks and Recreation
Rebecca Pool	Director, Library
Robert Hemminger	Director, Emergency Services
Greg Grigg	Chief of Police
Linda McHone	Director, Information Technology

Other Appointed Officials

Jim Fox	City Attorney
---------------	---------------

City Facilities

Animal Shelter	281-478-7274	4213 Luella
Art Park Players Dinner Theatre	281-478-7288	1302 Center
Avon Recreation Center	281-478-7216	601 W. 8 th Street
Battleground Golf Course	281-478-2080	1600 Georgia
City Hall	281-479-2394	710 E. San Augustine
Claude Burgess Recreation Center	281-478-2060	4200 Kalwick
Community Center	281-478-2050	610 E. San Augustine
Fire Station #1	281-478-2043	1302 Center
Fire Station #2	281-478-7282	711 E. Pasadena Blvd.
Fire Station #3	281-478-7281	2211 East X
Jimmy Burke Activity Center	281-478-2049	500 W. 13 th Street
Kingsdale Center	281-478-7215	2218 Kingsdale
Maxwell Adult Center	281-478-7276	1201 Center
Municipal Court	281-478-7238	1302 Center
Police Station	281-479-1511	2911 Center
Public Library	281-478-7208	3009 Center
Swimming Pool	281-478-2055	610 E. San Augustine
Transfer Station	281-478-7213	610 Underwood

The *Messenger* is a quarterly newsletter published by the City of Deer Park, 710 E. San Augustine, Deer Park, Texas 77536. Go to www.deerparktx.gov to read the newsletter online or to sign up for *Notify Me* so you can receive the latest edition of the Messenger by e-mail as soon as it is available.

September

- 1 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 5 Siren Test 12pm
- 7 City Services Closed - Labor Day
- 12 Siren Test 12pm
- 14 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 15 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 19 Siren Test 12pm
- 21 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 22 LEPC Meeting - 11am
- 26 Siren Test 12pm

October

- 3 Siren Test 12pm
- 5 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 6 City Council Meeting - Time to be determined
- 10 Siren Test 12pm
- 17 Siren Test 12pm
- 19 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 20 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 24 Siren Test 12pm
- 27 LEPC Meeting - 11am
- 31 Siren Test 12pm

November

- 2 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 3 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 7 Siren Test 12pm
- 14 Siren Test 12pm
- 16 Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7:30pm
- 17 City Council Meeting - 7:30pm
- 21 Siren Test 12pm
- 26 City Services Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday
- 27 City Services Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday
- 28 Siren Test 12pm



1600 Georgia Ave.

www.battlegroundgolfcourse.com

Golf Course 281-478-2080

Republic Grill 281-478-2089

Fire Department



Fire Prevention Week

This year, Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 4-10. Have you ever wondered why there is a week in October dedicated to the importance of fire prevention? Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, which started on Oct. 8 and continued to burn until Oct. 10 that year. The Chicago Fire killed 250 people, left 100,000 people homeless, destroyed 17,400 structures, and burned 2,000 acres.

There are some differing opinions as to the cause of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. Some people believe that a cow started the fire by knocking over a lamp at Mrs. O'Leary's farm. Although there is no proof of that, the fire almost certainly originated at or near Mrs. O'Leary's farm. The day the Great Chicago Fire started was also the same day the Peshtigo Forest Fire began. The Peshtigo Forest Fire is known to be the most devastating forest fire in the U.S.

Both of these fires certainly changed the way firefighters and public officials viewed fire safety. In 1911, the Fire Marshals Association of North America decided

to observe the anniversary of the Great Chicago Fire through fire prevention awareness. In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson issued the 1st National Fire Prevention Day proclamation. Since then, Fire Prevention Week has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday in which Oct. 9 occurs.



Fire Prevention Parade

Join Sparky on Oct. 3 at 10am to kick off Fire Prevention Week with a grand parade. It's fun for the whole family. The parade route will begin at the stadium parking lot on P St. and end at Fire Station No. 1 located at 1302 Center St.

Smoke Alarms

Are you aware that about half of home fire deaths result from fires reported between 11pm and 7am?



Smoke from fires can spread very quickly. Smoke alarms can definitely save lives by warning people and giving them time to get out. In fact, working smoke alarms reduce the chance of dying in a reported fire by 50%! Remember, when it comes to smoke alarms, it's all about location, location, location. Be sure to install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home, including the basement.

Art Park Players

Season Tickets

If you are interested in a corporate, patron, or season membership, contact Diane at 281-794-2448.

- A Tuna Christmas (October 2015)
- The Addams Family (February 2016)
- The Great American Trailer Park Musical (April 2016)
- The Producers (July 2016)

\$500 Corporate Membership - 4 tickets to each regular season production
\$220 Patron Membership - 2 tickets to each regular season production
\$90 Season Membership - 1 ticket to each regular season production

A Tuna Christmas

Oct. 9, 10, 16, 17, 23 & 24
7pm Meal, 8pm Curtain
Oct. 11 & 18
1pm Meal, 2pm Curtain
\$30 Meal & Show Tickets
\$15 Show Only Tickets

In this hilarious sequel to Greater Tuna, the outrageously funny and much loved characters of Tuna, Texas are back for Christmas. Local radio station OKKK personalities, Thurston Wheelis and Arles Struvie, report that the Christmas festivities are in jeopardy and no nativity scene is safe! Join us for all the laughs as two talented men portray all 24 citizens of Texas' third smallest town, where the Lion's Club is too liberal, and Patsy Cline never dies.



For more information, call 281-478-7288. To purchase tickets to any of our shows, call the Art Park Players Box Office at 281-794-2448. Unless otherwise noted, productions are held at the Municipal Court & Theatre Building located at 1302 Center Street.

Police Department

Back-to-School Safety

The start of another school year can be stressful for children and their parents. There is so much to think about - school dress code, supply lists, homework, and safety. To help children do their best, parents should establish a daily routine. According to Harvard child psychologist, Dr. Larry Kutner, a.k.a. "Dr. Dad," this is especially important for young children since they tend to have a more difficult time with change. If possible, practice your morning schedule the week before school actually starts. Find out how long it takes to get up, get dressed, eat breakfast, and head out the door.

It is very important to review safety rules with your children at the start of every school year. Be sure they understand how to safely board and exit a bus. Children should stand 6 feet away from the curb while waiting for the bus to arrive. They should also make sure the bus comes to a complete stop before attempting to enter the bus. Remind children to walk on the sidewalk, and if a sidewalk is not available, walk facing the traffic. Reiterate that they should stop and look to make sure cars are not coming toward them before they cross the street. Most intersections near Deer Park schools have a uniformed crossing guard to assist children with crossing the street. So, be sure to encourage your children to use these locations if they must cross the street. When children ride a bicycle to school, make sure they wear a helmet. Teach your children to ride their bicycle on the right side of the roadway and to come to a complete stop before crossing the street.

Set aside some time every day to talk to your children. Ask them to tell you about their day or what was the most interesting thing they learned at school. It is important to maintain an open dialogue with your children and to be aware of their daily activities.

Remember to acknowledge your child's concerns about a new school year, but also don't forget to be enthusiastic about learning and making new friends.



DPPD Officer and K-9 Unit Earn National Award

Congratulations to Officer Eddie Pereira of the Deer Park Police Department (DPPD), who - along with his K-9 unit, Ty - took home the 8th place award in the 2015 National Narcotic Detector Dog Association's national competition. "I am very proud to say this is the second time that Ty and I have placed in the top 10 at the NNDDA Nationals," Pereira said. "This year, we took 8th place out of the 85 K-9 teams that took part. This achievement took a lot of hard work and training, and I'm extremely proud of Ty."

Pereira said he and Ty placed 10th during last year's competition, but earning 8th place this year represented an even greater achievement. "NNDDA made the competition a

lot tougher this year - participants were required to detect both marijuana and cocaine during the event, and false alerts resulted in a much larger point deduction," Pereira said. "In this competition, the difference between 1st place and 10th place can be a matter of seconds, so my goal has always been to place in the top 10."

Pereira, who has been a part of the DPPD for 25 years, began his time with the department in patrol, serving 3 years in the Detectives Division. He also served one year in undercover narcotics. Currently, Pereira and Ty, a single-purpose detective dog and full black lab, spend the bulk of their time conducting traffic stops and street-level drug interdiction.

In addition to competing in NNDDA competitions, Pereira said Ty is also certified through the organization, which makes him an even greater asset to the police department. "NNDDA is the largest nonprofit organization dedicated to the utilization and proficiency of scent detector dogs for the benefit of law enforcement," Pereira said. "It looks better for our department and for my cases to have the K-9 unit certified through a national organization."

For more information on the Deer Park Police Department, go to www.deerparktx.gov/police.

National Night Out

On Oct. 6, neighborhoods throughout Deer Park are invited to join thousands of communities nationwide for the 32nd Annual National Night Out crime and drug prevention event. National Night

Police Department

Out is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the Deer Park Police Dept. Over 16,500 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities, and military bases around the world will participate. Sponsors this year include ADT Corporation, NextDoor.com, Associa, Kwikset, FunFlicks, and Swank Motion Pictures.

National Night Out, a year-long community building campaign, is designed to: (1) Heighten crime prevention awareness, (2) Generate support and participation in local anti-crime programs, (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and (4) Send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and plan to fight back. In addition to the traditional outside lights and front porch vigils, most cities celebrate National Night Out with block parties, parades, festivals, safety fairs, and youth activities. On Oct. 6, residents in neighborhoods throughout Deer Park and across the nation are asked to lock their doors, turn on the outside lights, and spend the evening visiting with neighbors and police.



National Night Out emphasizes the importance of police-community partnerships and citizen involvement in our fight to build a safer nation. Contact Sheila Plovanich, Community Liaison, at splovanich@deerparktx.org or 281-930-2118 for more information.

Online Registration For False Alarm Program

On June 1, the Deer Park Police Dept., in partnership with AOT Public Safety Corporation, began offering online registration to improve the False Alarm Reduction Program. The goal of this program is to reduce the number of false alarms and keep first responders available for higher priority calls and crime reduction efforts. Once alarm users are registered online, they will be issued login and password information so that they may check their account at any time. For information on business, government, and residential alarm permits, including applications, renewals, online payments, account status, the city's alarm ordinance, and other alarm services, go to www.crywolfservices.com/deerparktx.

New CCPD/FCPEMSD Webpages

The Crime Control & Prevention District, and the Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District webpages have been updated. Citizens are encouraged to read the new material! The webpages were created with the assistance of the Deer Park Police Dept., the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Dept., and the Emergency Services Dept. to detail the history of each district, as well as their major projects and accomplishments since their creation in 2011. Each page includes photos of various projects and insight from department representatives. To take a look, go to www.deerparktx.gov and hover over *Your Government* and select the desired page under the *Boards, Commissions, Committees, & Districts* section.

Public Works

Flood Safety

Did you know that September is our most active month for hurricanes and tropical storms? At any given time, the city could experience a heavy down pour which could possibly flood streets and homes. Below are some important flood safety tips to keep in mind.

- Do not walk through flowing flood water. Drowning is the number 1 cause of flood-related deaths. Currents can be deceiving. It only takes 6 inches of moving water to knock you off your feet. Use a pole or stick to determine how deep the water is before you go through an area where water is not flowing.
- Do not drive through a flooded area. More people drown in their cars than anywhere else. Don't drive around road barriers because the road or bridge may be flooded and impassable.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. Electrocuting is the number two cause of flood-related deaths. Electrical current can travel through water. Please report downed power lines to CenterPoint Energy at 713-207-7777.
- Be aware of animals that have been flooded out of their homes and may be seeking shelter.
- Look before you step. After a flood, the ground may be covered with debris, including nails and broken glass bottles. Floors and stairs may be covered in mud and become slippery.
- Clean everything that came into contact with flood waters. Flood waters may have sewage and chemicals from roads, storage buildings, etc. Spoiled food, as well as flooded cosmetics and medicine, can be a health

Public Works

hazard. When it doubt, throw it out.

- Take good care of yourself. Recovering from a flood can be a difficult and lengthy process.

Automotive Waste Oil Collection

Knowing how to properly dispose of oil can be an issue for many. However, the Sanitation Division is providing residents with a convenient way to properly dispose of oil by adding the service to curbside pick up. The collection trucks are equipped with a waste oil repository to gain control over hazardous waste, protect the environment, and improve community service. Waste oil in screw top containers should be set out with regular garbage on one of your two service days. The household containers will be placed in the oil storage tank and allowed to drain while the collection crew proceeds to the next house. Once the oil container is drained, it will be discarded into the rear hopper and compacted along with the other household refuse.

Floodplain Development Permits

Floodplain Development Permits are required to ensure that proposed development projects meet the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and City of Deer Park Ordinance. A permit is required for all development in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) shown on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM).

“Development” means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to, buildings or other structures, filling, grading, paving,

excavation, or storage of equipment and materials. Regulating the floodplain is essential because fill and other material can obstruct flood flows similar to the way a structure can.

The City, in its discretion, can exempt obviously insignificant activities from the permit requirement, such as planting a garden, putting up a mailbox, and performing routine maintenance work like painting or reroofing a home. The key is to determine whether the project will present a new obstruction to flood flows, alter drainage, or have the potential to be a substantial improvement. These determinations can only be made by the permit official, not the builder.

To determine if your property is located in the SFHA, call 281-478-7252. You may also go to www.hcfcfd.org/tsarp.asp, hover over *Interactive Mapping Tools*, select *Harris County Flood Education Mapping Tool*, and click on the map. Then enter your address in the search box. A property located within the SFHA will be identified by the 1% (100-year) floodplain.

Drainage Culverts

If you live in an older part of town, there is a good chance that you have an open drainage ditch in your front yard. Many residents choose to have culverts installed so they will have a closed drainage system. Then the ditch can be covered and they can enjoy a larger front yard.

If you are interested in a drainage culvert, stop by the Public Works Dept. at City Hall or go to www.deerparktx.gov/publicworks and complete a culvert request

form. Once your request is submitted, it will be forwarded to our Engineering Dept. Within 5 business days, a city employee will stop by your address to examine the site and determine the size of culvert that needs to be installed. You will then be notified of the size and type of culvert that must be purchased, as well as the backfill material that will be needed.

Once the homeowner has obtained all of the necessary materials, the Public Works Dept. will generate a work order to schedule the culvert installation. They will install the culverts and backfill within 10 days after receiving the work order.



Resident Reminders

Property owners are reminded that City Code states that garbage cannot be placed out for pick up earlier than 6pm on the evening before the scheduled collection day.

Your cooperation is appreciated.



Public Works

City Projects

- *Deer Park Gateway Project* - This project involves installing a masonry monument within the Center St. right-of-way between Railroad Ave. and State Highway 225. The project was awarded to DT Construction for \$463,500 and is expected to be completed in 2015.
- *Rehabilitation of Pasadena Blvd. Elevated Water Storage Tank* - As part of the Hurricane Ike Round 2.2 CDBG Disaster Recovery funding, and in partnership with Harris County, the elevated water storage tank located on Pasadena Blvd. is being rehabilitated inside and out. Gulf States Protective Coatings is expected to complete the project by fall 2015 for \$342,000.
- *Rehabilitation of the Coy St. 1-Million Gallon Ground Storage Tank* - The Coy St. ground storage tank is being rehabilitated inside and out. The project was awarded to Blastco Texas, Inc. for \$600,000 at the May 5th City Council meeting.
- *Waste Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project, Phase I* - This project has been awarded to CSA Construction for \$4,908,600. In May of 2013, City Council authorized staff to enter into a contract with CDM Smith for the design of Phase I. The project is identified in the 10-year Water and Sewer Capital Improvement Plan and is split into two phases. It is being funded with Certificates of Obligation. Construction began in June 2015.
- *Norwood St. Reconstruction Project* - The project is currently under construction on Norwood St. between 13th St. and 8th St., and involves replacement of the concrete pavement and sidewalks, water line, and storm sewer. The project was awarded to Mar-Con Services for \$1,354,818.10.
- *Replacement of 8th St. Bridge spanning the Harris County Flood Control Ditch G104-00-00* - The 8th Street bridge is near the 1st Baptist Church and the old San Jacinto Elementary. It will be replaced to allow for better drainage in surrounding neighborhoods. The project was awarded to D & W Contractors for \$814,396 at the February 17th City Council meeting and is expected to be completed by fall 2015.
- *Water Line Improvements, Phase III* - The project involves rehabilitating 3,100 linear feet of existing 6" and 8" water line. The lines will be increased to 6", 8" and 12" HDPE. New fire hydrants will be installed as well. The project will take place on Martha, Peggy, and Marlene Streets, plus a portion of 8th St. This project is through the Houston-Galveston Area Council Cooperative Purchasing Program. PM Construction and Rehab, LLC will perform the work for \$532,896.
- *Manhole Rehabilitation* - Fuquay, Inc. will perform services to rehabilitate manholes throughout the city. The cost of this project is \$131,124.75 and will be funded with water/sewer bond funds. The project should be completed by fall 2015.
- *Storm Sewer Rehabilitation* - Fuquay, Inc. will perform storm sewer rehabilitation work at College Park Drive

and Academy Lane. The cost for this project is \$148,424. Work began in July 2015 and is expected to be completed by fall 2015.

- *P Street Detention Pond Rehabilitation* - This project involves cleaning, regrading, and stabilizing detention ponds located on either side of East P Street near the Parkside Place and Park Meadows subdivisions. The work will greatly improve the functionality of the ponds. If the budget allows, there are plans to install a perimeter fence, as well as landscaping, to improve safety and security around the ponds. This project will be awarded by September 2015 and funded out of storm-water funds.

DPTV

Watch the new season of the Texas Parks & Wildlife series on DPTV this October. You'll be inspired to get outdoors and enjoy what Texas has to offer!

Garage Sales

Garage sale permits are required in Deer Park. The permit fee is \$5 and may be obtained from the Utilities Dept. at City Hall. A garage sale sign permit is available for an additional \$5. A \$25 deposit is also required and will be refunded to you once all stickers are returned. A garage sale permit can be issued only once within a 6-month period for the same address or same person and cannot exceed 10 consecutive days.

Maxwell Center

The Maxwell Adult Center is a recreational facility for citizens, ages 55 & over. A coffee bar with free Wi-Fi is available. For more details, call 281-478-7276.

Meal Programs

Seniors can participate in a congregate meal program and eat at the Maxwell Center, or for those who qualify, sign up for the homebound meal service and we'll deliver lunch to your home, Monday-Friday.

Fitness Center

The fitness room is open 6 days a week. Our equipment includes 2 recumbent bikes, a treadmill, and an elliptical machine. Hours of operation are as follows:

*Mon., Wed. & Fri., 7am-5pm
Tues. & Thurs., 7am-7pm
Sat., 7am-12pm*

Pick N' Grin Jam Session

Fridays, 7pm

Come enjoy the music, make new friends, and share stories! Bring an instrument to play or simply come to sing along and dance. Light refreshments provided.

Classes

Knitting & Crochet - Thursdays, 9-11am Learn to knit and crochet. Join the group whether you have some or no experience.

Ceramics - Mon. & Thurs., 9am-12pm & 1-4pm, \$7.50 per quarter Discover the difference between painting and staining your ceramic artwork with Pat Thompson. Students can create functional pieces or decorative objects.

Arts & Crafts - Through Sept. 28, 9-11am, \$10 per quarter Learn about the art of stamping, how to

make a scrapbook, and the basics of making personal greeting cards.

Leatherworking - Wednesdays, 9-11am Masters and beginners will work from small kits or build their own project. Learn to stitch, tool, and cut. All tools provided.

Wood Carving - Wednesdays, 1-3pm Mike Moeskau will teach techniques in the art of wood carving.

Oil Painting - Tuesdays, 9am-12pm & 1-4pm Bernadine Roop and Bea Stanton will guide novice oil painters through the process of creating a masterpiece. Seasoned painters can share their techniques, and ideas.

Senior Trips

Sept. 13-19, \$480 per person, Tunica (Casino Capital of the South) & Memphis (Home of the Blues) - Trip includes motorcoach transportation, lodging for 6 nights, 10 meals, admission to Graceland, admission to the Tunica Museum, free time on Beale St., and guided tour of Memphis, TN.

Sept. 15, \$35 per person, Bay/Jetty Fishing - Meet at the Maxwell Center at 6:45am and travel to Galveston. Boat departs at 8am and returns at 12pm. A grill is on board and drinks can be purchased or you can bring your own (no alcoholic beverages). Fishing equipment is provided.

Dec. 6-12, \$575 per person, Branson Holiday Show Extravaganza - Trip includes motorcoach transportation, lodging for 6 nights, 10 meals, admission to 7 fabulous Branson shows, 3 evening shows, and Showboat Branson Belle.

Halloween Party

Join the fun at the Maxwell Center on Oct. 30, 5:30-7:30pm. There will be games, refreshments, music, and a prize for best costume.

Senior Olympics

Deer Park will host its 1st Senior Olympics November 9-13 at the Jimmy Burke Activity Center. This event will also be open to La Porte and Pasadena seniors, ages 55 and over. We are in the early planning stages. For more information, call 281-478-7276.

Streetlights

CenterPoint Energy maintains streetlights throughout our area. To report a street light outage, call 713-207-2222 or visit www.centerpointenergy.com/cehe/support/streetlight. You will be asked to provide the 6-digit stenciled number on the pole to identify the exact location of the pole with the issue.



Emergency Alerts

Deer Park residents are encouraged to register for the city's emergency notification service. To add your contact information to the database, call 281-479-2394 or go to www.deerparktx.gov/oem, click on the Blackboard Connect icon, and then click on the one-step notification sign up icon.

Library News

Beginning Crochet

For ages 8 to adult

Tuesdays, 7-8pm

This free class is offered at the library for those with some or no previous knowledge. Learn at your own pace. Attend at your own convenience. Initial materials provided. Registration is not required.

Storytime programs for toddlers and preschool children incorporate books, fingerplays, songs, and activities to promote interest in reading and lifelong learning.

Toddler Storytime

For children up to 3½ years old
Wed. & Thurs., 10:15-10:45am

Sept. 2-Dec. 3

The sessions include stories and activities designed to encourage a love for books, increase attention spans, and develop basic social skills. Parents and caregivers are required to stay with the toddler to encourage them to participate. Storytime sessions will not be offered on Oct. 14 & 15 due to the Friends of the Library Annual Fall Book Sale. Storytime resumes Oct. 21.

A special **Halloween Storytime** session for toddlers and preschoolers will be offered on October 29 at 10:30am. Costumes are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

Preschool Storytime

For ages 3½ to 6

Thursdays, 11-11:45am

Sept. 3-Dec. 3

In these sessions, children listen to stories and participate in group activities. A storytime session will not be offered on Oct. 15 due to the Friends of the Library Annual Fall Book Sale. Storytime resumes Oct. 22.

Movie Matinee

Thursdays, 3:30pm

Join us for a movie and popcorn. Call 281-478-7208 for movie titles and suggested age ratings. A movie will not be offered on Oct. 15 due to the Friends of the Library Book Sale. Movie Matinee will resume Oct. 22.

Friends Fall Book Sale

The Friends of the Deer Park Public Library's Annual Fall Book Sale is Oct. 14 through 17 during normal library hours. Members of the Friends of the Library are invited to attend the preview sale on Oct. 13 from 5-9pm. Annual membership dues for Friends of the Library are \$5 for individuals, \$10 for families, and \$2 for senior citizens. For more information, call 281-478-7208.

Fall Craft

For ages 5 to 12

Sept. 22, 3:30-4:30pm

Materials to assemble the fall craft will be provided to children free of charge. A craft to accommodate children ages 5 to 8 and ages 9 to 12 will be available.

Halloween Craft

For ages 5 to 12

Oct. 20, 3:30-4:30pm

Materials to assemble the Halloween craft will be provided to children free of charge. A craft to accommodate children ages 5 to 8 and ages 9 to 12 will be available.

Thanksgiving Craft

For ages 5 to 12

Nov. 17, 3:30-4:30pm

Materials to assemble the Thanksgiving craft will be provided to children free of charge. A craft to accommodate children ages 5 to 8 and ages 9 to 12 will be available.

Teen Tech

For school-aged teens

Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30pm

Teens will enjoy socializing and a little friendly competition at video gaming, board games, and card games. Free snacks are provided by the Friends of the Library. Teen Tech is cancelled on Oct. 14 due to the Friends of the Library Book Sale. Teen Tech resumes Oct. 21. Teens are invited to participate in a tournament as part of a Halloweenie Roast event on Oct. 28. On Nov. 25, Teen Tech will offer extended hours from 1-4pm.

T.A.B. Meeting

Join the Teen Advisory Board at the Deer Park Public Library and be a part of the planning for teen programs. Discuss reading trends and make suggestions for the teen collection. Meetings will be the 1st Tuesday of the month at 4pm. If you are interested, contact Robert at rzambrano@deerparktx.org or stop by the library.

Mystery Book Club meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6pm. Join other mystery readers to discuss the selected books and other mystery favorites. Registration is not required. You are welcome to come whether you have read the books or not.

Sept. 8 - Scandinavian Crime Fiction

The Son by Jo Nesbo

Oct. 13 - Paranormal Suspense

The Creeps by John Connolly
&

Midnight Crossroad
by Charlaine Harris

Go to www.deerparktx.gov/library or call 281-478-7208 for November mystery book selections.

Library News

Computer Classes

Computer classes are free, but space is limited so registration is required. Some classes have pre-requisites. In addition to computer classes, open lab sessions are offered and do not require registration. For more information, call 281-478-7208.

- **Introduction to Computers** - Become familiar with computers and technical terminology, plus get comfortable using a mouse, opening software applications, and other basic skills.
- **Browsing the Web** - Learn the basic skills of browsing the world wide web. Topics include search engines, simple search techniques, security precautions, and the basics of e-mail.
- **Using Social Networks** - Learn the basics of social networking sites and how they are used. Websites to be discussed include Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter, and LinkedIn.
- **Microsoft Word 2010 Basics** - Become familiar with the 2010 version of Word and learn how to create and edit basic Word documents, including resumes and letters.
- **Microsoft Excel 2010 Basics** - Become familiar with the 2010 version of Excel and learn how to create and edit basic spreadsheets, as well as use simple formulas and functions.
- **Microsoft PowerPoint 2010 Basics** - Become familiar with the 2010 version of PowerPoint and learn how to create a presentation using themes, illustrations, transitions, and animation.
- **Open Lab Session** - One-on-one assistance for Microsoft Office programs, Windows 7, and more. Our reference

librarians can assist with document formatting and electronic resources. Feel free to bring your laptop from home.

- **Basic Genealogy** - Learn how to use the library's resources to research your family history. Become familiar with Ancestry Library Edition and HeritageQuest Online.
- **Genealogy Lab** - One-on-one assistance in your search for family history. Basic Genealogy is a pre-requisite for this lab.
- **Find a Job** - Become familiar with the resources available at the library to assist you with exploring career opportunities, creating or updating a resume and cover letter, preparing for an interview, and more.
- **Keys for Career Seekers** - Discover online resources to assist you with each stage of the job search process, including LinkedIn, Glassdoor, Career Cruising, and Job & Career Accelerator. Access the keys that will help you unlock your potential as a candidate.

New Arrivals for Adults

September

- *Murder House* by James Patterson & David Ellis
- *Make Me: A Jack Reacher Novel* by Lee Child
- *After You* by Jojo Moyes

October

- *Rogue Lawyer* by John Grisham
- *Corrupted* by Lisa Scottoloni
- *Foreign Affairs* by Stuart Woods

November

- *The Guilty* by David Baldacci
- *The Crossing* by Michael Connelly
- *Cross Justice* by James Patterson
- *Destiny and Power: The American Odyssey of George Herbert Walker Bush* by Jon Meacham



The Library Has Issues!

Library patrons can read many of their favorite magazines on their computer or portable device through the Zinio platform. Titles as diverse as Family Tree Magazine, Good Housekeeping, Newsweek, and Texas Monthly are available. Readers can view pages in full color and search for keywords to quickly find articles of interest. This resource can be accessed at the library or from anywhere else.

Library cardholders will also have access to more than 100 classic audio books and e-books through a new resource, OneClickDigital. Titles in the collection are available all of the time, so readers don't have to wait. Content is compatible with most popular portable devices. Go to www.deerparktx.gov/library to access Zinio and OneClickDigital.

New at the Library

The Deer Park Public Library (DPPL) has several new tools to enrich your life. Library cardholders can learn new languages, receive newsletters on their favorite genres, and enroll in more than 300 classes taught by a live instructor. Check out the resources under E-Library at www.deerparktx.gov/library.

One of the most popular language learning programs now available for DPPL patrons is Rosetta Stone. Rosetta Stone can be accessed at the library or from home. The resource uses images, sound, and text to immerse the learner into the language of their choice. Library

Library News

patrons can complete the first learning level for more than 30 languages, including French, German, Japanese, and Spanish.

LibraryAware allows patrons to subscribe to newsletters on a variety of topics. Keep up with the latest titles in mystery, romance, and science fiction, as well as best sellers, biographies, and children's books. Stay informed by simply checking your email! Newsletters are sent monthly and bi-monthly.

Gale Courses, another incredible new resource, enables patrons to enroll for online classes taught by real instructors. Available courses include memoir writing, public speaking, using eBay, and much more. You can also learn computer programs like Adobe Photoshop, Microsoft Excel, and Quickbooks. New classes start each month!

You can now explore more than 90 electronic resources at www.deerparktx.gov/library.

Adopt-a-Pet

Dogs and cats are available for adoption at the Deer Park Animal Shelter. There is a \$50 adoption fee, plus you must prepay for the spaying or neutering of the animal and a rabies vaccination. To view the pets currently available for adoption, visit the shelter Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm or Sat., 8am-12pm, or go to www.facebook.com/DeerParkTX.AnimalShelter. For more information, call 281-478-7274.



Employee Awards 2015



April	May	May
Supervisor	Support Staff	Field Staff
		
Tom Fuller	Ernestina Palomares	Polo Guizar
Public Works	Police Department	Public Works

Tiffany's Tips

Pollinator Highway Project

Many organizations across the United States are working together to restore native plant species and help save pollinators, which are rapidly declining in numbers. On Earth Day, the Parks Dept. partnered with Genesis Energy to install 2 butterfly waystations in city parks. These butterfly waystations are registered with Monarchwatch.org and meet the requirements set forth to preserve and enhance many types of pollinators. The first 2 parks to receive the gardens were Big Bend and Brownwind. Genesis Energy, L.P. was very generous in donating educational signs for both gardens. There are plans to add more gardens in the coming months and eventually connecting the Deer Park Prairie to our Deer Park Wetlands. Pollinators come in many sizes and include species of bats, butterflies, moths, flies, birds, beetles, ants, and bees.

Did you know that bats pollinate? Bats like to live in the skirts of palm trees. The skirts are the dead fronds that hang down against the trunk of the tree. They are great places for bats to live so don't trim them off during the summer months. The babies are being raised during the summer and can be injured during the removal process. Trim the skirts off your palm trees in late fall through early spring. Bats benefit the ecosystem and eat mosquitoes.



Over 80 percent of the world's flowering plants require a pollinator to reproduce. If you are interested in helping to save the pollinators, go to www.deerparktx.gov/pollinatorhighway.

Tiffany McGallian, Park Operations Coordinator

Parks & Recreation

Women's Self Defense

Sept. 2, Oct. 7 & Nov. 4, 6:45-8:30pm, for ages 12 & over, \$35 per person, Claude Burgess Recreation Center, Instructor Tania Weber

Learn how to defend yourself and your family in a threatening situation. This program will teach you about situational awareness and personal protection tools, as well as provide tips on staying safe, improvised weapons, and simple self-defense techniques.

Adult Flag Football

Starts Sept. 2, Wednesdays (men's), 6:30pm, \$325 per team, includes all official fees and flags, Adult Sports Complex, 2600 Pasadena Blvd. Join our new adult flag football league! The season includes 6 weeks of double header games and the 7th week is a single elimination playoff format in which all teams participate. Winners will have the choice of shirts or a \$75 credit towards the next season of play.

Movies in the Park

Sept. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, 8-10pm, Dow Park Enjoy a free movie with us at dusk. September's movie is *Journey to the Center of the Earth*, October's is *Ghostbusters*, and November's is *Singin' in the Rain*.

NRA's Eddie Eagle Gunsafe Program for Children

Sept. 8, Oct. 13 & Nov. 10, 3-4pm, for children in Pre-K through 4th grade, \$10 per child, Deer Park Community Center, Room 10 This is the #1 gun accident prevention program in the nation. Children learn what to do if they ever come across a gun through four simple steps: Stop! Don't touch! Run away! Go tell a grown-up! This program includes watching a movie, story-

time, a craft project for kids, as well as a parent's guide to gun safety, and a certificate for the participant.

Adult Volleyball

Starts Sept. 15, Tuesdays, 6:30pm, \$125 per team (if you register by midnight on Labor Day), \$150 per team (if you register after Labor Day), Earl Dunn Gym Adult Volleyball is back! This is an 8-week league followed by a single elimination tournament (all teams will qualify). League is a non-spike recreational league that follows the High School Federation Rules. A team must have a minimum of 6 players with at least two females. Deadline to register is Sept. 8.



Worldwide Day of Play

Sept. 19 is Nickelodeon's Worldwide Day of Play - an entire day devoted to play! To celebrate, Nickelodeon will go off the air 12-3pm to encourage children and their parents to get outside and play. The Parks and Recreation Dept. has scheduled 3 hours of fun at Dow Park to encourage families go outside, play games, jump on inflatables, enjoy refreshments, listen to music, and more. It's a celebration of fun and togetherness free of charge. We'll have hot dogs and ice cold water for the first 100 people. There will be popsicles, popcorn, games, a variety of attractions, and face painting! Some games will even be in the pool so wear a swimsuit.

In case of inclement weather, limited activities will be held inside the Deer Park Community Center.

Market Days

Sept. 19, Oct. 17 & Nov. 21, 9am-1pm, Dow Park Stroll through Dow Park on the 3rd Saturday of every month. Market Days help support local businesses by allowing them to sell their ready-made or homemade items. There is always something there for everyone. Parking is free for this event. Please contact Betty Geck at marketdays@yahoo.com if you wish to be a vendor. If the ground is too wet, the event will be held at the tennis courts.

Adult & Child Life Saving

Sept. 24, Oct. 22 & Nov. 12, 5:30-9pm, for ages 15 & over, \$40 per person, Deer Park Community Center, Instructors Brandi Arevalo & Debra Culp Learn the Red Cross basics in life saving CPR, AED, and First Aid.

Youth Basketball

Starts Jan. 9, Saturdays, 8am, \$60 per child Registration is now open for 2016 City of Deer Park Youth Basketball League! The number of teams in the league are determined by the amount of volunteer coaches that register for the season. Teams will be determined by a blind draft per age division, regardless of the school they attend. Each player receives a basketball jersey. Practices are twice a week. Games are held on Saturdays at a DPISD gym. Practices begin in December and the season will begin mid-January 2016. Players must be 7 to 12 years old. Registration ends Oct. 31.



Parks & Recreation

Quick Start Kayaking

Sept. 4, Oct. 9 & Nov. 11, 6:30-8:30pm, \$10 per participant Come learn the basics in a kayak safe environment. All equipment provided.

Arbor Day Camp Out

Nov. 6-7, 6:30pm-11am, \$10 per adult, \$7 per child Get ready for planting trees, games, s'mores around the fire, and a night full of family memories!

Archery Camp

Dec. 28-30, 10am-2pm, \$40 per participant Join us for a crash course in Recurve Archery!

Another Man's Treasure

Feb. 19, 7am-3pm & Feb. 20, 7am-2pm, Free admission and parking, Jimmy Burke Activity Center Discover your treasure at the citywide garage sale. Plan to shop for bargains or find out how to become a vendor. For more information, go to www.deerparktx.gov/parksandrecreation or call 281-478-2050.



Halloween

Goblin Gallop - Get active this fall with the Goblin Gallop. In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness month, a portion of the proceeds will benefit *The Rose* in Houston, which assists with quality breast health care in the surrounding area. *Oct. 10*

Haunted Maze - A cool shudder trickles down your spine. Glancing around nervously, you see somber portraits staring at you from behind layers of dust, seemingly infiltrating your very being. Cold, hesitant light streams in through a cracked window, casting eerie shadows on the walls. As you walk forward, you

can't help but feel that someone is following you. Whirling around, you see nothing but the empty hallway and the faces in the portraits staring at you. You contemplate turning back, but instead you swallow a nervous whimper and continue into the dark bowels of the maze. *Oct. 16-17 & Oct. 23-24, 7pm-11pm, \$10 per person*

Halloween Carnival - This year's theme is *Under the Big Top*. Wear your craziest, family-friendly costume and let the spirit move you! The costume contest is from 2 to 4pm. Stroll down the friendly streets of Pumpkin Town for carnival games. Pumpkin Town tickets are 3 for \$1. Advanced tickets can be purchased at the Deer Park Community Center. Enjoy the carnival rides. Tickets for sale at the event. \$3 per ride or \$12 wristbands for unlimited rides between 2-5pm. Concessions will be available for purchase. *Oct. 31, 2-5pm, free parking and admission, Jimmy Burke Activity Center*



Thanksgiving

Turkey Shoot - All equipment is provided. Come sharp shoot your way to a prize! Entry only tickets, plus dinner & entry tickets available. *Nov. 24, 5-9pm*

Turkey Camp - Enjoy arts & crafts, games, and field trips during Thanksgiving break. You will be so stuffed full of fun after 3 days, there won't be any room for turkey! *Nov. 23-25, 7:30am-5:30pm, \$75 per resident, \$85 per non-resident*

Turkey Toss - Join us at the Bayou Bend Disc Golf Course and help our local food bank. Entry fee

is \$10, plus a non-perishable food item. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in best of two nine-hole rounds. *Nov. 21, 9am-12pm*



Christmas is coming!

Sleigh Ride - Join us for hot chocolate, cookies, and Christmas lights. Once again, we are loading up the sleighs and enjoying Deer Park's Holiday Spirit! Reservations must be made in advance. Children must be accompanied by an adult and a waiver must be signed for each participant. Registration begins Oct. 5. Limit 60 participants per ride. *Dec. 16-19, 6:15-7:30pm & 7:15-8:30pm, \$5 per person, Jimmy Burke Activity Center*

Reindeer Park

Dec. 4 & 5



Breakfast with Santa

Dec. 12, 9am, \$10 per child, \$5 per adult

Santa's Night Out

Dec. 18, 6pm-12am, \$25 per person

Elf Camp

Dec. 21 & 22, \$25 per child per day

For more information, go to www.deerparktx.gov/parksandrecreation or call 281-478-2050.

2015-2016 Budget

On July 30, the City Manager presented to the Mayor and City Council a proposed budget for the fiscal year that begins on October 1, 2015 (FY 2015-2016). The City Manager's proposed operating budget totals \$57,259,280. The proposed operating budget expenditures for the major City funds are as follows:

General Fund	\$37,176,374
Water & Sewer Fund.....	10,856,745
Debt Service Fund.....	4,354,752
Special Revenue Fund	2,324,130
Storm Water Utility Fund	577,279
Golf Course Lease Fund	120,000
Capital Improv. Fund.....	1,850,000
TOTAL.....	\$57,259,280

The proposed operating budget includes a proposed tax rate of \$0.72/\$100 of valuation, which is the same tax rate as levied in FY 2014-2015. As in the past, all residential property owners will continue to receive a 20% value reduction on their homestead property for the purpose of computing the property tax. By way of example, the owner of a home valued at \$100,000 will pay property taxes on \$80,000 of that value. Additionally, senior citizens, age 65 and older, will continue receiving an additional exemption of \$50,000 on the value of their homestead. Utilizing the same example of a residence valued at \$100,000, a senior citizen will pay property tax on \$30,000 of the value of the residence. As a further benefit for senior citizens age 65 and older, the amount of property taxes paid to the City is capped as of the year in which they turn 65. Unless a senior citizen makes improvements to their home, such as adding a room or building a

swimming pool, they will never pay more in property taxes to the City than the amount paid in the year they turn 65 years of age, even if their existing residence increases in value. For more information on these exemptions and the tax cap for senior citizens, please contact the Tax Dept. at 281-478-7222.

The City uses a variety of funds to pay for its operations. The General Fund includes monies for the general operation of the City, including services such as Police, Fire/EMS, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Library, and Administration. The proposed FY 2015-2016 General Fund budget calls for no ad valorem tax increase, no new full-time staff positions, and no cost of living increase for full-time City employees.

The City will continue addressing water and sewer capital improvements designated as part of a 10-year capital improvements program. These include significant renovations to our wastewater treatment plant and water storage tanks, the rehabilitation of sewer lines, and the replacement of water lines in various locations of Deer Park. FY 2015-2016 is the fifth year of this program. These costs will be funded through the issuance in FY 2015-2016 of nearly \$7,000,000 in certificates of obligation backed by water and sewer revenues. The City's Water & Sewer Fund operates as an enterprise fund, which means it derives revenue from water and sewer rates, not property taxes. Debt obligations for water and sewer system improvements must be funded by water and sewer revenues. Similar to the General Fund, no

new full-time positions are proposed to be funded in the Water & Sewer Fund. For FY 2015-2016, water and sewer rates are budgeted to increase 5%. These new rates are necessary to support the increased cost of operations and debt service payments associated with the Water & Sewer Fund.

Funds in the Debt Service Fund are used to pay the annual interest and principal payments on the City's outstanding bonds, as well as the related paying agent fees. These expenditures in FY 2015-2016 are estimated to be \$4,354,752. This amount includes the estimated interest and principal payments and issuance costs associated with the sale of \$7,145,000 of certificates of obligation. Proceeds of \$1,400,000 from the sale of the certificates will be used to construct a new Humane Shelter and the remainder of the proceeds will be used to rehabilitate various streets in Deer Park.

The Special Revenue Fund consists of revenue from the Hotel Occupancy Tax, Municipal Court fees, Police Forfeiture funds, and Grant funds. For FY 2015-2016, proposed Hotel Occupancy Tax expenditures total \$1,196,100, which includes funding to support debt payments issued for the construction of a new Civic Center. Several City events are funded through Hotel Occupancy Tax proceeds, including the annual Reindeer Park, the Totally Texas Festival, and partial co-sponsorship of the San Jacinto Day Festival and Battle Reenactment. Municipal Court fees will fund related Court expenditures of \$249,346 in FY 2015-2016, and Police For-

2015-2016 Budget

feiture funds will cover \$13,684 of Police Department expenditures. Additionally, the City is to receive \$595,000 in grant funds from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, which will pay for an Outdoor grant, the new Wetlands project, and Hike & Bike Trails.

The Capital Improvements Fund is for the purpose of funding capital improvements on a cash or pay-as-you-go basis, which reduces the use of long-term debt financing. Projects totaling \$1,850,000 are included in the FY 2015-2016 budget, with \$1,000,000 allocated for street improvements, \$500,000 for sidewalk improvements, and \$250,000 for drainage improvements. There is also a \$100,000 contingency for unforeseen capital needs.

The Storm Water Utility Fund allows the City to cover expenses associated with the unfunded federal mandate known as the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The NPDES mandate requires cities to implement programs and practices to control polluted storm water run-off through a permitting program. Those expenses in FY 2015-2016 total \$577,279, and include lease-purchase payments toward a new Street Sweeper and a Gradall vehicle, which is used to clean ditches.

The Golf Course Lease Fund is used to record the expenditures associated with maintaining The Battleground Golf Course and Republic Grill through a lease agreement with Touchstone Golf. For FY 2015-2016, the Golf Course Lease Fund expenditures

are budgeted at \$120,000 for equipment rental, repairs, and maintenance.

In May 2011, Deer Park voters authorized a ¼ cent sales tax for a new Crime Control and Prevention District (CCPD) and a ¼ cent sales tax for a new Fire Control, Prevention and Emergency Medical Services District (FCPEMSD). These districts are component units of the City, led by their respective Board of Directors. The FY 2015-2016 budgets of both districts provide dedicated resources beyond the City's General Fund, which allow for the purchase of many other items to be utilized by the Deer Park Police Department and the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department. The CCPD's budgeted expenditures for FY 2015-2016 are \$2,744,863. The FCPEMSD's FY 2015-2016 budgeted expenditures total \$1,313,285.

For more information about the proposed budget, please contact the City Manager's Office at 281-478-7245. You may also review the proposed budget at www.deerparktx.gov, or visit the City Secretary's Office or the Deer Park Public Library.



Economic Development

Business News



- *Norma's Country Dreams* at 4705 Center St. was recently named one of the top 10 favorite Houston-area small businesses by KTRK Channel 13 viewers. Congratulations to owner, Norma Moses!
- Doug and Cindy Wagner, owners of *Brico Services Air Conditioning and Heating* in Deer Park, are celebrating their 6th year in business. The name Brico is a combination of their children's names, Brian and Courtney. Brico specializes in residential and light commercial air conditioning/heating maintenance and replacement, in addition to attic insulation. All technicians are state-registered. Call Brico Services at 832-878-8146 to ask about available financing options.
- During the last 25 years, longtime Deer Park resident, Michael Renteria, has owned local Mexican food restaurants. Michael recently sold Border Grill on Spencer Highway and started a new career as a financial representative with *Principal Financial Group*. You can reach Michael at renteria.mike@principal.com or 832-654-9352.
- *Sweet Peas Children's Boutique* at 118 Dixie Dr. (across the street from the post office) has remodeled their store to include a large tea room for children's parties and other

Economic Development

special events. Owners Vanessa Nylund and Wendy Welch will supply plenty of dress up clothes and accessories for both girls and boys. Let them give your kids a party to remember! For more information, call 832-339-3826 or go to www.facebook.com/sweetpeasofdeerpark.



- *Tania Alejandra Artistry/Jewelry/Leatherwork* has opened a studio at 8361 Spencer Highway (near the intersection at Luella). Tania has been making one-of-a-kind jewelry for over 2 decades. She started leatherworking 7 years ago. Her Deer Park shop features not only her creations in leather and jewelry, but also other local artists' wall art, wood bowls, wall crosses, and more. From hat-bands to toe rings, and everything in between, visit www.TaniaAlejandra.com.
- The section of land that was cleared on E. Pasadena Blvd. near East Blvd. (west of Monument Baptist Church) is being prepared for Phase III of the *East Meadows* residential subdivision. The section will be constructed in 3 phases and include approximately 75 custom-built homes.

For questions, contact Debbie Westbeld at 281-478-2042 or go to www.deerparktx.gov/ed.

Council Actions

May 2015

- Awarded the bid for the rehabilitation of the 1-million gallon Coy Street ground storage tank to Blastco Texas, Inc. in the amount of \$432,500.
- Accepted the completion of the E. Highline Drainage project. Final cost was \$313,160.60.
- Authorized staff to seek proposals for the design, planning, fabrication, installation, and maintenance of a comprehensive way-finding signage system.
- Authorized the purchase of two 2015 Ford Interceptor sedans for the Police Dept. through the BuyBoard Cooperative Purchasing Program in the amount of \$46,316.50.
- Authorized the purchase of four 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe's for the Police Dept. through the Houston-Galveston Area Council Cooperative Purchasing Program in the amount of \$120,076.
- Authorized the purchase of a 2015 Ford F-150 Super Crew for the Police Dept. through the Tarrant County Cooperative Purchasing Program in the amount of \$27,861.25.
- Authorized the purchase of a valve actuator for the Water Treatment Plant to Hartwell Environmental in the amount of \$30,000.
- Approved an agreement with T. F. Harper & Associates LP through the Texas Cooperative Purchasing Network for Phase II of the Minchen Athletic Complex renovation in the amount of \$1,675,260.
- Approved the acceptance of a Downtown Public Spaces Improvement Grant from the Houston-Galveston Area Council for the Gateway Project in the amount of \$25,000.
- Approved the canvassing of the votes for the May 9, 2015 City General Election.
- Approved the canvassing of the votes for the May 9, 2015 Type B Special Election.
- Approved an ordinance declaring the results of the City General Election and Type B Special Election held on May 9, 2015.
- Awarded the bid for a one-year supply of gasoline and diesel fuel to Mansfield Oil Company.
- Awarded the bid for Fire Station No. 2 Driveway Paving Improvements to T & T Construction in the amount of \$48,107.50.
- Authorized staff to issue a Request for Proposals for Emergency Services for food and supplies during emergency and disaster responses.
- Authorized staff to issue a Request for Proposals for investment advisory services.
- Authorized staff to advertise and seek bids for a one-year supply of garbage bags.
- Authorized staff to seek bids for a one-year supply of sodium hexametaphosphate for the Water Treatment Plant.
- Authorized staff to purchase and install an 18-inch bypass flow meter for the Water Treatment Plant from Aqua Vault, Ltd. in the amount of \$40,104.
- Approved the adoption of the Strategic Technology Master Plan.
- Approved a running chronological listing of Mayor Pro-Tem designations.
- Approved a contract with the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region for economic devel-

Council Actions

opment services in the amount of \$22,000.

- Approved an agreement with Deer Park Independent School District for FY 2015-2016 Facility Usage.
- Approved the appointment of members to the Planning and Zoning Commission/Board of Adjustment.
- Approved the appointment of alternate members to the Board of Adjustment.
- Approved the appointment of members to the Parks and Recreation Commission.
- Approved a resolution approving a change order in the FY 2015-2016 Fire Control, Prevention, and Emergency Medical Services District Budget regarding the Fire Station No. 2 Driveway Paving Improvements project.

June 2015

- Authorized staff to negotiate a contract with RVi for architectural services related to the development of the Deer Park Wetlands.
- Accepted the completion of the 2013 Water Line Improvement Project, Phase I. Final cost was \$658,306.
- Accepted the completion of the Surface Water Treatment Plant Improvements – Replacement Auto Transfer Switch and Utility Appurtenances project. Final cost was \$258,400.
- Approved an agreement to renew the contract with Red Cross for transportation services.
- Approved an ordinance calling a public hearing on the Juvenile Curfew Ordinance.
- Approved an ordinance

appointing a member to the Board of Directors of the Deer Park Crime Control and Prevention District.

- Approved an ordinance naming the Type B Corporation the “Deer Park Community Development Corporation”.
- Approved an ordinance appointing members to the Type B Corporation.
- Authorized the city attorney to prepare a certificate of formation for the Type B Corporation.
- Approved a change order with D & W Contractors for the 8th Street Bridge project in the amount of \$18,720.40.
- Approved the purchase and lease purchase financing for a Vacall All Sweep Street Sweeper through H-GAC Cooperative Purchasing Program in the amount of \$262,847.
- Authorized the purchase of services through BuyBoard from Fuquay, Inc. to rehabilitate manholes throughout the city.
- Accepted the completion of the Sewer Rehab SSO 2-B Deer Park Terrace. Final cost was \$409,807.34.
- Accepted the Quarterly Financial Report for the 2nd Quarter Ended March 31, 2015.
- Authorized the removal of a security bond requirement from the lease agreement with Touchstone Golf.
- Approved an agreement with A & R Engineering to perform geotechnical work for the 8th Street Bridge Replacement project in the amount of \$17,979.
- Approved an ordinance calling a joint public hearing to rezone property located in the 800 block of West Pasadena Blvd.

from Multi-Family 2 (MF-2) to a Planned Unit Development (PUD) for an apartment complex.

- Accepted a resolution approving the Type B Corporation’s Certificate of Formation.
- Approved an ordinance amending Section 14-242(b) of the City’s Code of Ordinances, related to dangerous dogs.
- Approved an ordinance amending Section 66-173 concerning stop signs, and Schedule A and Section 66-175 Schedule D pertaining to speed limits.

July 2015

- Awarded the bid for a one-year supply of refuse bags to Central Poly Corporation.
- Awarded the bid for a one-year supply of sodium hexametaphosphate for the Water Treatment Plant to Gaschem International LLC.
- Approved a change order with D & W Contractors for the 8th Street Bridge project in the amount of \$33,345.
- Authorized staff to advertise and receive bids for snack and beverage vending services for all city facilities.
- Authorized the purchase of services through BuyBoard to Fuquay, Inc. to line the storm drain at College Park Drive and Academy Lane at a cost of \$148,424.
- Authorized the purchase of services through BuyBoard to Fuquay, Inc. for the outfall drainage at the Battleground Golf Course at an estimated cost between \$175,000 and \$250,000.
- Authorized staff to seek bids for the “P” Street Detention Pond

Council Actions

- Rehabilitation project.
- Authorized staff to retain professional engineering services to repair damages to infrastructure near the Battleground Golf Course.
- Accepted the Quarterly Investment Report for January – March 2015.
- Approved an agreement with National Sign Plaza for the design, planning, fabrication, installation, and maintenance of a comprehensive way-finding signage system.
- Approved an agreement with True North Management, LLC through the H-GAC Cooperative Purchasing Program for FEMA Public Assistance Grant Services.
- Approved a specific use permit at 4317 Red Bluff Rd. to operate a ministry outreach facility.
- Approved the appointment of an alternate City of Deer Park representative to the Houston-Galveston Area Council General Assembly and Board of Directors.
- Approved a resolution adopting the 2015 Harris County Mitigation Action Plan.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the publication of Notice of Intention to Issue Certificates of Obligation; approving the preparation of the Preliminary Official Statement; and approving other matters incidental thereto.
- Approved a resolution amending the Personnel Manual regarding Military Training Leave.
- Approved an ordinance amending the FY 2014-2015 Budget to repair damages to the infrastructure near the Battleground Golf Course.
- Approved an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances Appendix B Fee Schedule for Building Permit Fees.
- Approved an ordinance renewing the Juvenile Curfew ordinance.
- Awarded the bid for the purchase and installation of new carpet for the theater from My Flooring America – Bay Area in the amount of \$24,943.03.
- Awarded the bid for the purchase and installation of chairs for the theater from Vesco Business Products and Office Furniture Direct in the amount of \$30,110.
- Awarded the bid for lease purchase financing of a Vacall AS10D All Sweep Sweeper for the Street Maintenance Dept. for 36 months at 1.42%.
- Authorized staff to seek bids for the Firing Range and Training Facility for the Police Dept.
- Accepted the completion of the Surface Water Treatment Plant Improvements for the replacement of the Backwash Pumping System. Final cost was \$103,601.43.
- Amended the agreement with Langford Engineering for the discharge header replacement at the 13th Street Lift Station in the amount of \$5,370.
- Approved an agreement with RVi for architectural services related to the development of the Deer Park Wetlands in the amount of \$140,000.
- Renewed the Inter-local agreement for School Resource Officers/Crossing Guards with the Deer Park Independent School District for the 2015-2016 school year.
- Approved an agreement with True North for services associated with public assistance on the Battleground Golf Course infrastructure.
- Approved an agreement with Klotz & Associates for a technical review and possible traffic impact analysis for a proposed multi-family development in the 800 block of W. Pasadena Blvd.
- Nominated James J. Stokes as a candidate for the TML Multi-State IEBP Board of Trustees for Region 14.
- Referred a request for a Specific Use Permit to the Planning and Zoning Commission from Native Prairies Association of Texas at 1222 ½ E. Purdue for educational resources for the local community and school districts.
- Approved an ordinance relating to the use of Wireless Communication Devices while operating a vehicle in Deer Park.
- Approved an ordinance calling a Public Hearing on the proposed FY 2015-2016 Crime Control and Prevention District Budget.
- Approved an ordinance calling a Public Hearing on the proposed FY 2015-2016 Fire Control, Prevention & Emergency Medical Services District budget.

Notify Me

Stay informed with news and announcements from the City of Deer Park by joining the e-mail subscription lists of your choice. Go to www.deerparktx.gov and select *Notify Me*.

Register Today - Before a Storm is on its way!
Transportation Assistance Registry

If you will need help evacuating in the event of a hurricane, please dial 2-1-1 to register in advance for a ride. Dial 2-1-1 as soon as possible, if you:

- Have a disability or special health care need and require assistance to get out.
- Cannot drive and cannot arrange for transportation.
- Do not have a vehicle and you have no one else to help you evacuate.

The 2-1-1 registration process gives local emergency planners a better idea of the number of individuals who may need assistance, and the type of assistance they may need. The State of Texas will provide your information back to local emergency planners so they can plan accordingly.

Once you are registered, your information is safe in the state database. There is no need to call either 2-1-1 or your local emergency management office back to verify registration. This includes people who registered last year. Unless there is a change to your information, you do not need to re-register.

You will need the following information to register:

- Name
- Address
- Phone number (There is only room for one number, so please give the best number to call.)
- Contact name
- Contact relationship (aunt, brother, son, friend, landlord, etc.)
- Contact phone number
- Do you need transportation? (yes or no)
- Do you have any pets or service animals? (yes or no)
- Do you have a special medical need? (Describe the type of need you have.)



Save Your Life. Dial 2-1-1 To Register In Advance For A Ride.

Report A Concern

To report a concern or issue that needs our attention, complete this form and return it to:
City Manager, 710 E. San Augustine, Deer Park, Texas 77536.

You can also submit the appropriate form online at www.deerparktx.gov.

Together we can make Deer Park a better place!

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Best time to call: _____

Location of concern: _____

Describe the issue: _____



P.O. Box 700
Deer Park, TX 77536

Presorted Std.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Deer Park, Texas
Permit #15

The Mission of the City of Deer Park is to deliver exemplary municipal services that provide the community a high quality of life consistent with our history, culture, and unique character.

Prescription Program

The City of Deer Park, in collaboration with the National League of Cities, offers a prescription discount card program that may save residents an average of 20% off the regular retail price of prescription drugs at participating pharmacies. The card is free to all Deer Park residents, regardless of age, income, or existing health insurance. For more information, call 888-620-1749 toll free or go to www.deerparktx.gov, hover over *Our Community*, and click on *Prescription Discount Card Program*.

Facebook

The City of Deer Park is on Facebook! To connect, go to www.deerparktx.gov/facebook.

Garbage Bags

Starting Oct. 5 through Oct. 24, the City will operate its trash bag distribution center in the west parking lot of the Jimmy Burke Activity Center at 500 W. 13th St. The distribution center will be open 6am to 6pm on weekdays and 7am to 4pm on Saturdays (Oct. 10, 17 & 24).

In late September, residential customers will receive a green colored coupon in the mail, which will be required to redeem the boxes of trash bags. Through October 24, residents will be able to drive through and pick up 2 free boxes of trash bags. Beginning Oct. 26 through Nov. 25, residents that have not obtained their trash bags will be able to redeem their coupon for 2 free boxes of bags by visiting the utility counter at City Hall, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. After the November 25 deadline, trash bags will be available for purchase at the utility counter, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, excluding holidays.



Billing & Collections

Pay your water bill online, by mail, via electronic draft, or in person. A drive-thru window and a 24-hour payment drop box is also available at City Hall. For more information, call 281-478-7221.

